



Southeast News

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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DECEMBER 1973 - JANUARY 1974

NUMBER 10

Strunk New Uplands Administrator



Rev. Lawrence N. Strunk assumed his duties as chief administrator for Uplands Retirement Center, Pleasant Hill, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1973. Rev. H. Wayne Peck, who has been with Uplands since 1966, became director of development.

News From Pleasant Hill

The Pleasant Hill community was saddened by the death of Mrs. Pearl May Bushong, wife of Rev. Eugene Bushong, on October, 29, 1973. In November, 1971, they had celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The husband, four children, and grandchildren survive.

... The Community Church's pastor, Rev. W. Walter Hall, was elected president of the Ministerial Association of Cumberland County.

... Uplands Executive Committee heard the executive director, Rev. Lawrence Strunk, propose a budget of \$445,507 for the fiscal year, submit "A Chain Command" organizational chart for the operations of Uplands and review the findings of the long-range planning committee.

... The Community Church received \$144.13 for the UNICEF Committee of the United Nations ... elected Rev. Willard Kratz as Minister Emeritus ... sent \$585.90 to the United Church of Christ as their offering for Neighbors in Need ... rejoiced when Felix Peck was elected chief gardener and Gaines Rowland the vice-chief gardener of the gardening project being developed by Uplands with residents of the community.

Share The Happiness

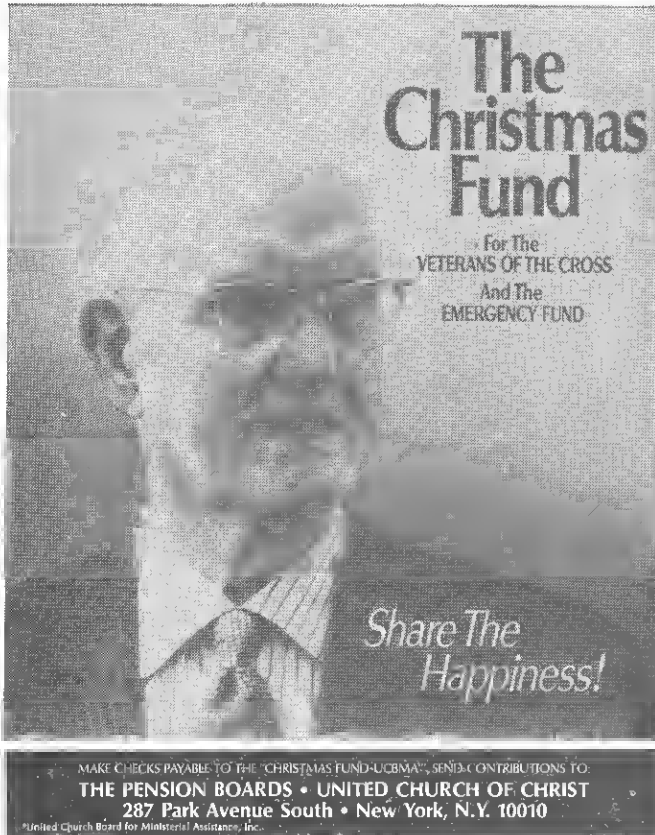
The theme of the 1973 Christmas Fund appeal comes from Paul's counsel to the Romans: "Share the happiness of those who are happy, and the sorrow of those who are sad." Ministers who are aided by the Christmas Fund have shared the happiness and sorrows of many people during their years of service.

Now, through the Christmas Fund, you share your own Christmas happiness with retired pastors who have special needs, helping with a practical gift and a greeting. You also relate to active ministers who have been hurt by emergencies of various kinds. Your Christmas Fund gift is shared with them through the Emergency Fund, which is also administered by the Pension Boards.

When you give to the Christmas Fund, you share not only your own happiness, but also the happiness of those who first shared their ministry with you and your parents — and grandparents.

The poster subject is the Rev. James A. G. Moore, now retired in Ithaca, New York, after a distinguished ministry.

Christmas Fund materials, including free posters, folders and offering envelopes, will be mailed automatically to all churches in November. Supplies needed, in addition to those in the packets sent to the churches, should be ordered from the Pension Boards, United Church of Christ, 297 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10010, who handle the Christmas Fund and emergency assistance.



(Above) Known affectionately by thousands of young people as "Uncle Jim," the Rev. James A. G. Moore served 23 years as Cornell University Chaplain and 18 years as an Associate Conference Minister. Now 81 and retired, he lives in Ithaca, New York, with Mrs. Moore.

The Christmas Fund receives gifts that honor the Senior Servants of the Church and provides Emergency Fund help for all our ministers and their families with special needs. (Our poster subjects are not recipients of the Christmas Fund.)

Harvest Sunday At Montgomery, First



Judge Margaret Haywood and Pastor George Hawkins

A traditional celebration at First Church in Montgomery, Ala., wasn't so traditional after all this year.

On November 4, 1973, the 11 o'clock service at First Church had all of the air of the Harvest Festival known to this church and community over the years. The altar was decorated with corn stalks, pumpkins, sugar cane, nuts, cotton, and flowers, all symbolic of the season.

A precedent was set when Mrs. Margaret A. Haywood, the first moderator to visit a church in the Southeast Conference, spoke to a full house of members, friends, and visitors of First Church. Visitors came from as far away as Savannah, Ga., and favorable comments are still being heard around the capitol city about Harvest Sunday at First Church. It was something of a coincidence that a small committee of the Southeast Conference and of the Southern Alabama Area Council, met in Montgomery on Nov. 3; many of them remained for the program on Sunday morning.

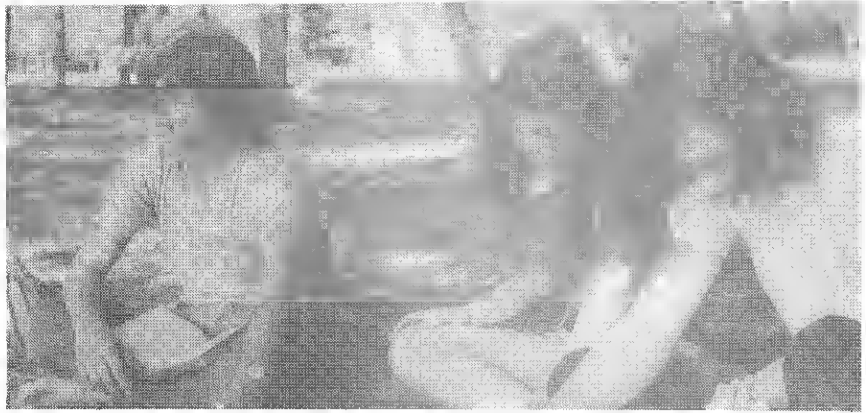
Southeast Conference visitors who took an active part in the program were Dr. W. J. Andes, who greeted the assembly, and Mr. Wallace J. Boothby Jr., who brought the morning's invocation.

On Saturday evening, Mrs. Haywood was greeted by members and friends of the church at an informal conversation hour at the home of one of the members.

First Church is proud to have been instrumental in bringing Judge Haywood to visit the Southeast Conference.

George C. Hawkins is pastor of First Church.

Thirty-two young people from Langdale, Lanett, and Todd churches rendered the youth musical, "Tell It Like It Is" in November at their respective churches.



Young people involved in thought during the Saturday study groups

Florida Is Site Of Mini Camp

The second Mini-Camp for 1973 was held at Camp Timpoochee in Niceville, Fla., Sept. 28, 29, and 30. Sponsored by the N. W. Florida-S. Alabama Association, the Mini-Camp attracted some 43 young people and 17 adult counselors and teachers.

Graced by good weather, the Mini-Camp proved to be most rewarding. The location of Camp Timpoochee, a 4-H Camp, is on the Gulf Coast and provides more than adequate recreational, sleeping, and dining facilities. Situated directly on the coast line, its beach lined by trees, the camp provided a beautiful location for spiritual exploration and fellowship.

Under the direction of Camp Director Alton Nixon and his staff of teachers and counselors, the Mini-Camp offered a pleasant mixture of religious exploration and recreational opportunities. After their arrival on Friday evening, the campers

were greeted by dinner and an introduction to the camping schedule. Saturday found the young people in six different "study groups" intermingling recreation with study of "The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ," theme of the camp. On Saturday evening, all of the campers joined together in an evening program. After a service of worship on Sunday morning, the campers policed the area and headed for home.

The nature of the program, the beauty of the camp, and the exuberance of the young people all contributed to a most enriching camping experience. The NW Florida-S. Alabama Association is to be congratulated for all of the hard work and preparation necessary to make this Mini-Camp possible.

—Stephen C. Gray, Langdale
Interim Minister

ALABAMA YOUTH MEET

The North Alabama Youth Group met Sept. 23, 1973, at Old Liberty Congregational Christian Church.

During the meeting the new officers were elected as follows: president, Lisa Shelton, Caddo; vice-president, Gordon Burden, Old Liberty; secretary-treasurer, Sheila Parker, Caddo.

During the meeting the youth from Old Liberty put on a program called the "zero hour."

There were 6 churches represented: Caddo, Old Liberty, Jones Chapel, Arley, Mt. Grove, and Union Grove — a total attendance of 82.

The next youth meeting will be at Arley Jan. 27, 1974, at 2:30 p. m., with home church in charge of the program.

We hope to see all of the churches in North Alabama represented. Adults are welcome.

—Lisa Shelton, President

December A Time To Remember!

It's the end of the calendar year. For most local churches, it's the end of the fiscal year as well. This is so for the national agencies of the United Church of Christ. Therefore, before the books close on 1973, consider a last-minute, end-of-the-year gift to Our Christian World Mission. And if you know of unused church funds sitting idle in some local bank account, urge that they be put to work. Local treasurers will be sending in their final 1973 report in a few days. In light of continuing needs at home and abroad, December is a time to remember — and to give.

The Mt. Creek, Union Women's Circle has as its Thanksgiving project filling a love basket of fruit, canned juices, and other canned foods easy to prepare for an elderly man of the church. Dot Watson, secretary.

WILLIAM DAVID CHANDLER ORDAINED



On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 4, 1973, under the sponsorship of the East Alabama Association, at Hillside Congregational Christian Church, LaGrange, Ga., Rev. William David Chandler was ordained to the Christian Ministry and formally installed as minister of the Hillside Church.

The service opened with the organ prelude, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by Bach and concluded with "Trumpet Tune" by Purcell. A reception followed.

Participants in the service were: Rev. Joe A. French, Rev. Steve Gray, Rev. Charles W. Babcock of Columbus, Ohio, who gave the sermon; Rev. Warren Blankenhorn, Dr. William J. Andes, Rev. Terry Clark, and Miss Martha Banks, organist.

David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Chandler of Pensacola, Florida. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy at the University of West Florida at Pensacola; received his Master of Divinity degree from Gordon-Cornwell Theological Seminary, S. Hamilton, Mass., in June, 1973.

He is married to the former Miss Brenda Lavender of Pensacola, and they have one son, Kenneth David, five months.

First Church, Birmingham, November 18, had for the speaker Miss Gladys Varner, who gave a meditation on "Think of His Goodness." Miss Varner was substituting for the minister, Rev. Andrew L. Cooper, who was hospitalized. Our best wishes to him and also to his wife, Carolyn, who lost her father.

East Alabama Approves Lay Ministry and Area Minister



(Picture: New Student Ministers and Lay Minister at E. Ala. Assoc.: Back, L to R — James Smith, Jones Chapel; Wayne Moseley, Roanoke Lowell; David Chandler, Hillside, LaGrange; Terry Clark, United, LaGrange; Front: Steve Gray, Langdale; and Fred Morris, Lay Minister, LaGrange)

Two significant proposals were approved by the East Alabama Association meeting October 17-18:

(1) When approved by the other associations, Rev. Warren Blankenhorn was selected to fill the position of Association Area Minister for East, Central, and Southern Alabama Associations, beginning Jan. 1.

(2) A Lay Ministry program of training and licensing lay persons to fill pulpits in churches of their associations.

R. Kenneth Manning Ordained At Birmingham

On Sunday evening, Nov. 18, a Service of Worship Ordaining Ralph Kenneth Manning Jr. into the Christian Ministry was held in Pilgrim Church, Birmingham. The service followed the Ecclesiastical Council at 4:30 p. m., and a supper for participants at 6 p. m.

Moderator of the Ala.-Tenn. Association, Dr. Wilson Q. Welch of Fisk University, presided. Other participants were: Rabbi Milton L. Grafman, Dr. Guy L. Colbert, Dr. L. Harold DeWolf, Dr. William J. Andes, Dr. Homer C. McEwen, Dr. S. L. Johnson, and Dr. Jerry C. Smith. Soloist was Mrs. Beverly Hulbert, soprano, and organist, Mr. Donald T. Harris. Appropriate hymns and music were used.

Mr. Manning teaches in the Samford University, Cumberland School of Law, Birmingham, Ala.

Mrs. Edward M. Brown (Freda) was a delegate from Southeast Conference to the A. D. Magazine Seminar held in New Orleans November 7-8, 1973. Freda is a member of the Conference Board of Directors, and of Central Church, Atlanta.

Ga. - S. C. Youth In Learning Camp



In the mountains of N. Carolina, youth were involved in a friendly learning community.

The Ga.-S. C. Association conducted a capacity camp, August 5-11, 1973, at the Piedmont-Presbytery campsite in Sapphire Valley, N. C.

The camp program geared into the UCC curriculum on Shalom, with Mr. Ken Stokes, Council for Christian Social Action, as resource leader. Campers and aides became intensely engaged in a continuing simulation involving nationalism, foreign relations, war and peace.

A Christian artist from Bombay, India, Mr. Lem Patole, another resource leader, conducted classes in creative art and appreciation each day. He set up a display of his own paintings, one of which, "The Lotus and Christ," he presented to the camp where it hangs in the main building.

Ecology was interwoven throughout all camp programs, including hiking, cook-outs, meditations, meanderings about the site, discoveries of local ecosystems, etc.

—Trudi Sanford, Director
Christian Education

LOOKING AHEAD

December 9-16 — Visit of missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. Frank Towle of India to S. E. Conference

December 14-15 — Southeast Regional meeting, Committee on Mission Priorities, at Central Church, Atlanta

December 15 — Meeting of Executive Committee, Uplands Retirement Center

CONFERENCE OFFICE CLOSED:

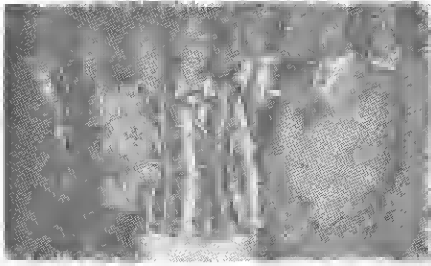
December 24-25 and Dec. 31 - Jan. 1

January 12 — Southern Ala. Area Council, Montgomery

January 15 — Return local church report blanks to SE Conference office

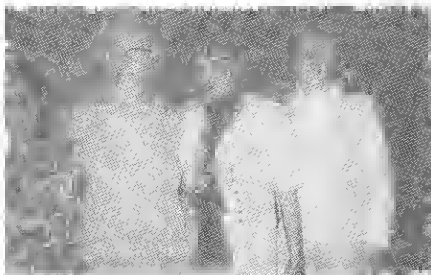
January 26 - February 3 — Visit of Rev. John Crozier and wife to Southeast Conference

South Alabama Association Elects New Officers



Meeting October 20, 1973, South Ala.-N. W. Florida Association elected the following for next year (L to R in picture above): W. D. Noles, chairman Christian Education; Dora Brackin, Rep. to SE Conf. Board; Mrs. Bernice Carter, Secretary; Mrs. Virada Brand, chairman, Outreach; Marvin Brand, moderator; Joe Brown, chairman, Church & Ministry; Ray Smith, vice-moderator.

Ministers' Wives At Association



Left to Right — Mrs. E. H. Henley, Mrs. N. A. Long, Mrs. Joe Brown, Mrs. W. D. Noles present at S. Ala. N. W. Fla. Association October 20, 1973. Mrs. B. L. Butler and Mrs. Ray Smith were not present at time picture was made.

OCWM Payments Due Jan. 10

All churches in Southeast Conference will please note that the closing date for any and all O. C. W. M. giving to be received in Southeast Conference office is January 10, 1974.

Anything received on O. C. W. M. in the Conference office after January 10 will be credited to 1974 O. C. W. M. gifts.

O. C. W. M. funds should be sent to:

Southeast Conference Office
P. O. Box 29883
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Fire Destroys Brookmeade Church Sanctuary

The sanctuary of Brookmeade Congregational Church, Nashville, Tenn., burned to the ground on Saturday, Nov. 10, 1973. It was a total loss; only the cross, altar, lectern, and some communion items were salvageable. The Educational Building was not damaged. Worship was held next day, Sunday, in Bell Meade United Methodist Church, followed by a congregational meeting, when these officers were elected: Ken Black, moderator; Al Turner, treasurer; Janet Little, clerk; Gladys Coult, historian; Jackie Shrago, Christian Enlistment; Ruby Thatcher, Board of Deacons; Ron Weber, Board of Trustees; Larry Brannigan and Nina Gargia, Board of Christian Education.

Some of the feeling felt afterward: "Sunday was a day of beautiful sunshine, but the stark naked steel made us painfully aware of a deep loss. Part of us is missing. A part of our spirit was in that small building. We have interim ministers, no sanctuary, only a few worship symbols, and our congregation left a-lone-some feeling. The pieces are scattered and the people are weary, but there is a determination that we shall put them back together — that we can do it and see through our weariness."

Friends have offered words of encouragement and help; churches have offered their facilities. Three people decided to join as full members and four as associate members that Sunday afternoon. The Council, meeting November 13, reported:

1. Insurance adjustor declared the building a total loss. We will receive \$32,000 and up to \$6,000 on the contents of the building. BHM has first claim to these funds as holder of the mortgage for \$17,000 and \$14,500 in grant mortgage. However, all these funds will be held by BHM in escrow for Brookmeade until decisions are made.

2. The following committees have been set up: Clean-up the burned site; thank God for Friends Committee, to assess needs and offers of assistance; Telephone Tree, to disseminate information; Administrative, to continue to coordinate internal work and act as channel; Structural Changes Committee.

3. Decision was made to hold worship in a nearby church for two months. During

(Continued on Page 5)

AWARD GIVEN TO REV. JOSEPH BROWN OF CRESTVIEW, FLA.



In June of this year, Lt. Colonel USAF Rodney J. Gorman (L. to R. as shown in above picture) presented the "Certificate of Service Twenty Year Award" to Rev. Joseph H. Brown, Crestview, Fla., who served in "Service Division" of Department of The Air Force at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Brown is also pastor of Good Hope Church, Baker, Fla., and chairman of the Commission on Church and Ministry for the South Alabama-N. W. Florida Association.

Year Book Reports To Be Mailed Out

Year book report blanks will be sent out to the churches of Southeast Conference on December 26th. Please be on the alert and do not mix them up with Christmas mail, as it takes extra time for the office to mail out another set.

These report blanks should be filled out and returned to Southeast Conference office by Jan. 15, 1974. If the office does not receive them back from the churches on time, then the report to the year book from our Conference is delayed. Your cooperation is appreciated.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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MMM IS NOT OAV

People keep raising questions with the Office for Audio-Visuals of the United Church of Christ about the relationship with Mass Media Ministries in Baltimore and St. Louis.

At one time Mass Media Ministries served as agent for the Office for Audio-Visuals on a contractual basis. That contract was terminated two years ago, with notification sent to all U. C. C. churches and church leaders at that time. Therefore, any contact you have with Mass Media Ministries in Baltimore or in St. Louis has no connection with the Office for Audio-Visuals of the United Church of Christ.

The Office for Audio-Visuals (UCC) continues to operate from 1505 Race Street. Any correspondence with its staff, or any orders for the purchase of film-strips should be addressed to that office. Our rental libraries are located in LaGrange, Ill., and in Ridgefield, New Jersey, for your convenience. Whenever you desire to rent a film from the Office for Audio-Visuals you should write or phone your nearest rental library:

600 Grand Avenue, Ridgefield, N. J.
07657 (201) 945-7060

512 Burlington Ave., LaGrange, Ill.
60525 (312) 352-1535

It is to your advantage to consult the AUDIO-VISUAL CATALOG AND GUIDE 1972-1973 before renting any film. In most cases the cost is significantly lower. In addition, the greater the volume of business which the Office for Audio-Visuals does, the more new films can be made available to you for rental, thus increasing your options and saving you money at the same time.

FIRE AT BROOKMEADE (Continued from Page 4)

this time a committee will determine what structural changes might be appropriate in the Education Building to make it suitable for worship.

4. After talking with Don Flick, decision was made to proceed with Identity and Planning Program involving congregation, to look at our future as it has now been given to us since the fire.

5. We set up a savings account as a Building and Fire Emergency Fund to receive the donations offered.

6. We thanked God for the opportunities given to us.

For further information, write Jackie Shrago or Irv Faust, c-o Brookmeade Congregational Church, 700 Bresslyn Rd., Nashville, Tenn. 37205.

The Minister's Word On The Holidays

From "Pilgrim News"
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Thanksgiving is here! Followed almost immediately by the season of Advent, during which we prepare for Christmas. And the Christmas season is followed by New Year's. This is the time we call in America "the holidays." It is interesting how we came to celebrate such a long season.

It began in Scotland where some dour dominies (clergymen) decided not to celebrate Christmas. But the people, not permitted to celebrate the coming of the Light of the World, began to celebrate instead the coming of the new year. And then our Puritan ancestors in early New England objected to Christmas too as a "Romanizing custom." So the people instead celebrated Thanksgiving for God's gift of the harvest.

The result of all this objection to Christmas was the Christmas holidays! I think there is a lesson here. The people sometimes are wiser than the theologians and they know that it is good to celebrate God's gifts.

I remember reading once of a young man out boating with a Puritan clergyman. The young man was observing the beauty of God's world. The clergyman responded: "Young man, beware of pantheism." Certainly he was wrong and it is good to see the hand of God at work in the beauty of His world, including the changing of the seasons, which we see around us now.

—David Beebe

In Memoriam

DR. LOUIS W. GOEBEL, President Emeritus of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, died in St. Louis at the age of 89, October 22, 1973, following a stroke. It was while Dr. Goebel was serving as president of the Evangelical and Reformed Church that that church took the first steps toward the formation of the United Church of Christ. He gave a brief but memorable address to the Ninth General Synod in June, 1973.

Private burial services were held on October 25 in St. Charles, Missouri, and a memorial service was held on Oct. 28 in St. Lucas United Church of Christ, St. Louis, Missouri.

LOOKING FOR A CHRISTMAS FILM?

Consult new MEDIA news No. 7 for help in locating a Christmas film including a new one, "The Christmas Bus," available from the Office for Audio-Visuals, United Church of Christ.

Tour With The United Church

Travel in the world where the church is at work. Contact: United Church Tours, 377 West Liberty St., Wooster, Ohio 44691.

Two Special Tours:

Holy Land Tour during Lent
March 4-14, 1974
Price: \$800

Visit Our Neighbor to the South,
Central and South America,
August 3-28, 1974
Price Pending

Regular Tours:

No. 1 — South Pacific
Fiji-Australia-New Zealand
January 23-Feb. 15, 1974
Price: \$1655 from San Francisco

No. 2 — History at Its Best

Turkey-Greece
April 18-May 7
Price: \$1,300 from New York

No. 3 — Bible Lands Today

Turkey-Lebanon-Israel-Greece-Egypt
April 23-May 14
Price: \$1,275 from New York

No. 4 — The Middle East in the Summer
Turkey-Lebanon-The Holy Land
June 16 - July 3

Price: \$990 from New York (Approximately)

No. 5 — Linking Europe and the Middle East

Switzerland-Germany-Hungary-England-Holy Land
June 24 - July 15
Price: \$1,496 from New York

No. 6 — An Oriental Spectacular

Japan-Hong Kong-Thailand-Hawaii
June 24 - July 15
Price: Approx. \$2,300 from San Francisco

No. 7 — Through the Center of Africa
Dakar-Ghana-Kenya-Ethiopia-Egypt
July 2-23

Price: Pending

No. 8 — A Total Learning Experience in the Holy Land
"A Holy Land Seminar"

July 8-26

Price: Approx. \$1,200 from New York

No. 9 — Southern Africa with a Pro
Rio-Zambia-Rhodesia-South Africa
August 8-29

Price: Approx. \$1,800 from New York

No. 10 — It's a Bit British
Ireland-Scotland-England-Wales
August 1-15

Price: Pending

No. 11 — Southern U. S. A.

A Tour to Visit Our A. M. A. Colleges
May 4-11

Price: Pending

(Continued on Page 6)

News Briefs - SEC

George Fidler's sermon at Cullman, St. John's Church on Sunday, November 11, 1973, was entitled "Should God Step Down?" . . . The previous Sunday was \$20.00 Sunday. The total offering was \$1563 . . . 40 men participated in the Men's Breakfast on Nov. 4 . . . The church is a singing church, led by the Junior Choir, Youth Choir, Teen Choir, and the Revelations.

First Evangelical and Reformed Church (UCC) of Nashville honored Mrs. Cecil (Hilda) Ward at her retirement as church organist on Sunday, Nov. 4, 1973. "Hilda Ward Day" was celebrated by the presentation of a plaque and a check for a love offering to Hilda Ward by Church Board President James Campbell, and pastor, Rev. Allen Hollis. A luncheon in her honor followed the morning service.

E. Alabama - West Georgia Lay Life and Work Meets

The East Alabama-West Georgia Lay Life and Work Fall Conference was held on September 30, 1973, at Rock Stand Congregational Christian Church, Roanoke, Alabama. The theme for the Conference was "CHOOSE LIFE."

The president, Miss Mary Johnson, presided. Mrs. Blanche Payne, First Church, Roanoke, gave the opening prayer. Mrs. Travis Moon, Rock Stand Church, welcomed the group. Mrs. A. D. Harry, Lanett Church, introduced the ministers and other guests. Appreciation was shown to Miss Vera Van Cleave that she was able to attend this meeting.

Mrs. June Maddox, Langdale Church, gave an inspiring devotion entitled "Why We Need God."

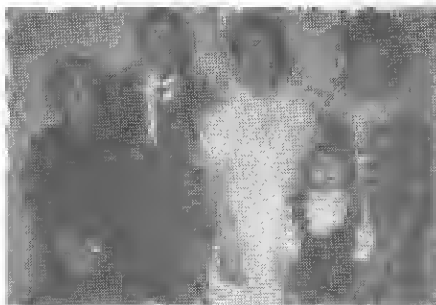
The speaker for the Conference was Mrs. Harold N. Auler Jr., wife of the pastor of the Lanett Church. Mrs. Auler and Rev. Auler spent seventeen years on the mission field in Honduras, Central America. Mrs. Auler held the group's complete attention as she very ably gave many inspirational and interesting thoughts — one being "Why should a Christian who has loved God so many years be so afraid?"

Mrs. Joe French, state president, brought greetings from the State Women's Fellowship. She gave other interesting and helpful thoughts on the year book, etc.

Three churches tied for the BANNER with 100 percent attendance. Rock Stand accepted the BANNER and suggested keeping it a while and then passing it to the other two churches, Wadley and Noon Day.

(Mrs.) Kathryn Childers

Caddo Church Has Five Generation Family



Caddo Church has the distinction of having as members a family of five generations and not only are they members, but they are present at church most every Sunday.

This family is: Mrs. Mary Shelton, 87 years old and a member of Caddo Church 68 years; Rev. Robert Shelton, 67 years old and a member for 43 years; Mrs. Ruth Waldrep, wife of Rev. Peet Waldrep, a member 13 years; Mrs. Joyce Shelton, six-year member; and Vickie Shelton, not yet a member.

The picture shows Earnest Shelton's mother, brother and nieces. Earnest Shelton is pastor of Caddo Church.

Pre-Publication Offer

If received by June 1, 1974, an order (paid) for the new United Church of Christ Hymnals may receive up to 12 percent discount, as follows: 25 or more copies, with-cash before June 1, 1974, at \$3.50 each; 1-24 copies, cash with order, \$4.00 each; one line of silver stamping in capital and lower case letters free with prepublication orders. Tentative prepublication price is set at \$4.00, but inflationary trends may make the price even higher by the fall of 1974, when it is to be published.

TOUR . . . From Page 5

No. 12 — Youth Tour to Europe

Plan is to visit Geneva and Zurich in Switzerland, Heidelberg and Berlin in Germany, Amsterdam in the Netherlands, and London in England.

Time — not definite (3 weeks)

Price: Reasonable compared to adult travel.

No. 13 — Youth Tour to Japan

Some young people and adults in California will tour Japan and Hawaii for June and July, 1974. A denominational venture and others are invited to go along.

Price: Not yet determined

Tokyo-Sendai-Kyoto-Osaka-Nara

Christ Was Made Manifest - Epiphany

(Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 6, 1974)

Epiphany is one of the oldest festivals of the Christian church. Originally, the occasion emphasized the baptism of Jesus as the event which marked his "manifestation" to men. In earliest times, the celebration of the birth of Christ was included in the celebration of Epiphany, and only later did the celebration of his birth come to be observed as a separate festival — Christmas. In the western church, the visit of the Wise Men from the East came to have a special place in the celebration of Epiphany, and Epiphany became known as the Festival of the Three Kings.

Realizing that there were numerous events in the life of Christ which might be considered manifestations of his uniqueness and divinity, the church has at times included in its Epiphany observance such incidents as the miracle at the wedding at Cana in Galilee and the feeding of the five thousand.

Implicit in the New Testament record is the suggestion that the Christ is manifest to men not only through the events of His life but also through the lives of believers. How else are we to understand the words of Jesus, "You shall be my witnesses"? Or the words of Paul concerning the Lord's Supper, " . . . as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." In each case the appropriate word is Epiphany, "to make manifest." Christ is made known through the witness of believers and through the celebration of communion as well.

In this hallowed festival we rejoice that Christ was made manifest to men of old, men who "beheld his glory" and who gave their lives that he might be made known in all the world. On this day we ought also to pray for an Epiphany in our own time, whereby the radiance of His truth and His love might be manifested anew through a vital and Spirit-filled church.

—Glenn E. Riddell Jr.

Eureka College,
Eureka, Illinois

(United Church of Christ Bulletin
Christus Series, 1-6-74)

Leaders and teachers from Hillside Church, LaGrange, participated in a Relationship Teaching Workshop at a Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga. Over 200 people from Christian, Baptist, Methodist and Lutheran churches of the area met in an eight-hour learning in building personal relationships, study and personal growth.